

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 66

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to recognize Jim Butcher on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Jim Butcher, the principal at Tennessee High School in Bristol, is one such estimable educator who evinces the greatest probity and excellence in all his endeavors; and

WHEREAS, after more than thirty-nine years as a coach, teacher, and principal, Mr. Butcher is taking a much deserved retirement, having been a positive influence on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Butcher is a graduate of Tennessee High School, for which he played football and was a member of the school's 1967 state baseball championship team; and

WHEREAS, he continued as an athlete in college, lettering all four years in both football and baseball until he was injured during his senior year, which led to him aspiring to become a teacher and coach; and

WHEREAS, Jim Butcher earned a bachelor's degree from Emory & Henry College in 1971, a master's degree from East Tennessee State University in 1973, and he completed post-master's coursework in administrative endorsement at the University of Virginia in 1993; and

WHEREAS, believing deeply in his mission of educating, empowering, and encouraging all students to achieve their maximum potential, Mr. Butcher began his illustrious career in education in 1971 at John Battle High School, which he served with acumen and alacrity as an English teacher and as an assistant coach for the varsity football and wrestling teams; and

WHEREAS, from 1973-74, while he pursued a master's degree, Mr. Butcher served as the graduate assistant football coach at East Tennessee State University before moving to

Sullivan East High School in 1974, which he served as a coach for various teams and as a health teacher; and

WHEREAS, from 1975-80, Mr. Butcher served as an English teacher at Enka High School in Asheville, North Carolina, during which time he also served as an assistant coach for the varsity football and wrestling teams, as well as the head baseball coach; and

WHEREAS, Jim Butcher returned to Tennessee in 1980 when he became an English and physical education teacher at Vance Middle School, which he also served as the head baseball coach from 1989-90; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Butcher began his long, storied career with Tennessee High School (THS) in 1982, when he became an English teacher and, over the years, he has served in numerous positions with the school; and

WHEREAS, he served as THS's assistant varsity track coach from 1982-85, as the assistant varsity football coach from 1980-95, and as the boys' head soccer coach from 1990-95; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1991, Jim Butcher accepted the position of THS's interim attendance director and, later that year, he became the special populations coordinator, a position in which he remained for four years; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, he began serving as the vice principal of THS, and in 2006, he assumed the reins of leadership as THS's principal, a position through which he has earned the respect of his colleagues, students, and community for the quality of his work, and the position from which he is retiring; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Butcher is a proud graduate of the Bristol Leadership Tomorrow Program; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, he is an active and devout member of Central Presbyterian Church, which he faithfully serves as an Elder and as a member of the Sanctuary Choir; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Butcher exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to his students and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Jim Butcher has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his faculty, staff, students, and the community at large; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Jim Butcher our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.